

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-03 OMB-01

L-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 IO-03 ACDA-10

SAJ-01 EB-03 /058 W

----- 069546

R 301816Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3628

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PARIS 25273

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 5)

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINT, GT, CY, TU, FR

SUBJECT: GISCARD VISIT TO ATHENS: POST MORTEM

REF: (A) PARIS 23741; (B) ATHENS 7240

1. SUMMARY: GOF IS CLEARLY SATISFIED WITH GISCARD'S VISIT TO ATHENS, WHOSE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE WAS TO GIVE CARAMANLIS A CLEAR-CUT POLITICAL BOOST. GISCARD EVIDENTLY AGREED WITH GREEKS THAT TURKS MUST MAKE TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS ON CYPRUS. GREEKS FOR THEIR PART FELT THAT ONLY NEW, STRONG EC-NINE INITIATIVE CAN GET SITUATION UNSTUCK, AND WERE SOMEWHAT CONCERNED THAT EXPECTED

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TION UNSTUCK, AND WERE SOMEWHAT CONCERNED THAT EXPECTED

LIFTING OF U.S. ARMS EMBARGO MIGHT ONLY DEEPEN TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE. WE GATHER THAT NO NEW ARMS COMMITMENTS WERE MADE, ALTHOUGH ELYSEE GAVE US IMPRESSION THAT GISCARD AGREED TO SPEED UP DELIVERY OF ARMS ALREADY ORDERED. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFFS HAVE NOW HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS FRENCH IMPRESSIONS GISCARD'S VISIT TO ATHENS WITH ROBIN, ELYSEE FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR AND REUILLARD, WHO HELPED PREPARE TRIP AS ACTING DIRECTOR MEDITERRANEAN AFFAIRS AT QUAI. ACCOUNTS LARGELY DOVETAILED.

3. PROPPING UP CARAMANLIS:

BOTH ROBIN AND REUILLARD REITERATED (PARIS REFTTEL) THAT GISCARD'S PRINCIPAL AIM HAD BEEN TO HELP REINFORCE CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT, WHICH IN FRENCH VIEW COULD STILL EASILY DISINTEGRATE UNDER PRESSURE OF NEW ADVERSITIES IN CYPRUS, WITH TURKEY OR FOR DOMESTIC REASONS. GISCARD HAD THEREFORE DONE HIS BEST TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO CARAMANLIS AND GREEK PEOPLE FRANCE'S STRONG SUPPORT FOR HIS REGIME, BOTH IN GENERAL AND IN MORE SPECIFIC SECURITY TERMS. HE HAD ALSO STRESSED FRANCE'S INTEREST IN EARLY GREEK ACCEPTANCE IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY TO ENCOURAGE BROADENING OF GREEK HORIZONS BEYOND LIMITS OF TURKEY-CYPRUS DIMENSION.

4. TURKISH REACTION:

IN ALL THIS FRENCH BELIEVE THEY HAVE BEEN LARGELY SUCCESSFUL WITHOUT REPEAT WITHOUT FURTHER STRAINING RELATIONS WITH TURKEY. INDEED, QUAI IS QUITE SATISFIED WITH RELATIVE MODERATION TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO GISCARD'S VISIT IN GREECE. QUAI ATTRIBUTES THIS PARTLY TO DISCREET FRENCH EFFORTS IN ANKARA AND TO FACT THAT TURKS MAY NOT HAVE WANTED TO SPOIL ATMOSPHERE UNDULY BEFORE FRENCH FOMIN SAUVAGNARGUES' VISIT TO ANKARA EARLY IN NOVEMBER. GISCARD HIMSELF, WE ARE TOLD BY ROBIN, FOUND CARAMANLIS EMINENTLY SANSIBIO AND INTELLIGENT COUNTERPART AND MAN WITH WHOM HE COULD EASILY TALK AND WORK.

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5. CYPRUS:

GOOD PART OF DISCUSSION WAS INEVITABLY FOCUSED ON CYPRUS. ALTHOUGH NEITHER OF OUR INTERLOCUTORS WAS PRESENT, OR CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN BRIEFED IN DETAIL ON PRIVATE GISCARD MEETINGS WITH CARAMANLIS, BOTH BELIEVE GISCARD CONVEYED WIDELY HELD OFFICAL FRENCH VIEW, WHICH GREEKS MUST HAVE

FOUND EASY TO ACCEPT, THAT CYPRUS ISSUE WAS ESSENTIALLY  
TERRITORIAL. TURKS COULD NOT HOLD 40 PERCENT OF LAND WITH LESS  
THAN 20 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, TURKS  
NOT DISPOSED TO RESUME DISCUSSION AND TURKISH TALK ABOUT  
WAITING FOR THEIR OCTOBER ELECTIONS MAY ONLY BE PRETEXT.  
FRENCH IN TURN WERE PLEASED THAT CARAMANLIS  
WAS NOT WHOLLY NEGATIVE TO IOEA OF SOME BI-ZONAL CONFED-  
ERAL CYPRUS ARRANGEMENT. PROBLEM  
WAS TO GET TURKS TO NEGOTIATE. GREEKS PARTICULARLY  
UNDERLINED TO GISCARD IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH IN THIS  
CONNECTION TO VIGOROUS EFFORTS IN ANKARA  
BY EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. AS FOR U.S., GREEKS  
WERE AFRAID, ROBIN SAID, THAT RESUMPTION OF U.S. ARMS  
SALES TO TURKEY WOULD ONLY REINFORCE ANKARA'S SELF-  
CONFIDENCE AND CONTINUING INTRANSIGENCE ON CYPRUS AND  
OTHER GREEK-TURKISH ISSUE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE HAVE  
IMPRESSION THAT FRENCH DID MAKE SOME EFFORT (AS REQUESTED  
STATE 215655) TO MODERATE GREEK REACTION TO POSSIBLE  
LIFTING U.S. EMBARGO BY POINTING OUT THAT THIS WAS PRE-  
CONDITION RESTORING REAL MOVEMENT TO CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS.  
FRENCH ALSO STRESSED STRONG EFFORT SAUVAGNARGUES HOPED  
TO MAKE IN ANKARA IN NOVEMBER. (THEY THEMSELVES ARE  
ACUTELY AWARE THAT THIS IS A LONG TIME AWAY, IN WHICH  
MUCH CAN HAPPEN.)

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 25273

LIMDIS

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6. SECURITY:

ROBIN SAID NO COMMITMENTS WERE MADE BEYOND GISCARD'S  
PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN THESSALONIKI ON FRENCH CONCERN FOR  
GREEK SECURITY. GOF WAS VERY MUCH AWARE OF CONTINUING  
IMBALANCE GREEK AND TURKISH ARMED FORCES, AND POSSIBIL-  
ITY OF POTENTIALLY DISASTROUS CONFLAGRATION, I.E., IN  
THE AEGEAN OVER OIL. IN CAREFULLY FORMULATED  
THESSALONIKI STATEMENT GISCARD THEREFORE TRIED TO BE  
REASSURING TO GREEKS, PARTLY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOOD FOR  
THOUGHT FOR TURKS. AS FOR ARMS SALES TO GREECE, BOTH  
SOURCES CLAIMED THAT NO NEW ARMS SALES COMMITMENTS WERE  
MADE. ON OTHER HAND ROBIN CONFIRMED IN VERY GENERAL  
TERMS GREEK PRESS REPORTS (ATHENS 7342) THAT FRENCH WOULD  
TRY TO SPEED UP DELIVERY OF PREVIOUSLY ORDERED ARMS.

7. GREEK MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN COMMUNITY:

ALTHOUGH THEME WAS STRESSED HEAVILY BY GISCARD IN GREECE,  
QUAI IN FACT HAS NO ILLUSIONS THAT GREEK EC MEMBERSHIP  
CAN BE NEGOTIATED QUICKLY. INDEED, REUILLARD THOUGHT,  
SPEAKING PERSONALLY, THAT PROCESS WOULD, AT VERY BEST,

TAKE TWO OR THREE YEARS AND PROBABLY MUCH LONGER; SINCE,  
APART FROM HOST OF POLITICAL AND TECHNICAL ISSUES  
CONCERNING GREECE, ISSUE OF TURKISH MEMBERSHIP INEVITABLY  
ALSO INVOLVED. EVEN SO GOF FEELS GREEKS WERE CLEARLY  
ENCOURAGED BY CONTINUING STOUT FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP  
THEIR CAUSE IN EEC COURT.

8. REQUESTED ACTION: REUILLARD, WHO IS BECOMING  
INCREASINGLY HELPFUL ON MEDITERRANEAN MATTERS, ASKED IF  
WE IN TURN COULD PROVIDE SOME DISCREET INDICATIONS  
WHETHER U.S. ALSO PLANNED MAKE NEW EFFORT ON CYPRUS  
AFTER ARMS EMBARGO IS LIFTED, AND, IF SO, WHAT FORMS  
EFFORT MIGHT TAKE. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER  
THOUGHTS DEPARTMENT MAY NOW OR IN FUTURE WISH TO CONVEY  
TO QUAI IN RESPONSE.  
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## Message Attributes

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